DUNCAN HUNTER 52D DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR



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May 13, 2009

The Honorable James Oberstar Chairman, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee 2165 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable John Mica
Ranking Member, House Transportation and
Infrastructure Committee
2163 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Oberstar and Ranking Member Mica:

As the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee begins work on highway reauthorization legislation, I respectfully submit the following Surface Transportation High Priority Project (HPP) requests for the Committee's review. These efforts will have a significant impact on my constituents in the 52nd District of California and I appreciate your consideration. In order of priority, these projects are:

1) State Route 67 Environmental Studies for Ultimate Project

\$8 million

This project will improve sections of State Route (SR) 67, a north-south route that carries intraregional, commuter and recreational travel, widening it from a two-lane conventional highway to a four-lane conventional highway. SR-67 is currently experiencing high levels of traffic congestion and delay at peak periods in an environment of rolling terrain and numerous ingress/egress points. These factors contribute to serious, and sometimes fatal, vehicular accidents in areas where vehicles are traveling at high speeds. The requested funds will be used for engineering and environmental studies for the project, which will seek to add one general-purpose lane to each direction with truck-climbing/passing-lanes as required. The project limits are from Mapleview Street to Highland Valley Road/Dye Road.

2) State Route 52 Inside Widening

\$8 million

The SR-52 Inside Widening Project will add a lane in the eastbound and westbound directions from Mast Boulevard to SR-125 or SR-52 in the City of Santee. The project will reduce congestion on existing parallel routes and local arterials and provide direct access for residents in East San Diego County communities to job centers to the west and north. At the same time, this effort will provide traffic optimization of SR-52 by eliminating an existing lane bottleneck caused by a lane reduction between Mast Boulevard and SR-125.

3) State Route 94/125 Interchange

\$8 million

This project is proposed to relieve existing and future traffic congestion caused by local and regional growth. The area has undergone completion of various freeway segments of SR-125 and completion of these projects has made the SR-125 an additional north-south freeway facility to Interstate 15 and Interstate 805. As a result, travel in the project area has grown dramatically and traffic is forced to exit

the freeway congesting the local street. This traffic also backs up the existing off ramp onto southbound SR-125, causing main lane freeway congestion and increased accident rates. Compounding the current problem is the fact that estimates anticipated traffic use to more than double from current levels by the year 2020. Specifically, funding will be utilized for the design and right of way acquisition phases of the project, including the construction of a direct connector ramp between southbound SR-125 and eastbound SR-94.

4) Bradley Ave/State Route 67 Interchange

\$5.375 million

This project will replace the two-lane Bradley Avenue overcrossing with a six-lane bridge with turn lanes for the SR-67 ramps. Adding these lanes will increase the capacity of the interchange, relieve traffic congestion and improve access between the residential area to the east and commercial area to the west. Adding lanes to Bradley Avenue and the associated SR-67 highway ramps will include dedicated left turn lanes at the freeway ramps, shoulders for emergency vehicle access, and separation for bicycles and pedestrians by installing bike lanes and sidewalks. Each of these measures will improve safety for motorized and non-motorized traffic and will reduce emergency response times in the Bradley Avenue area.

I would like to thank you in advance for the Committee's consideration of these important requests. If you have any questions, or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly, or have your staff contact Michael Harrison in my office at (619) 448-5201.

With best wishes.

Duncan Hunter

Member of Congress

DH/mrh

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EDUCATION AND LABOR U.S. House of Representatives 1429 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0552 (202) 225-5672 FAX: (202) 225-0235

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Washington, **BC** 20515-0552

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The Honorable John Mica Ranking Member, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee 2163 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

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